Minutes of Regular Meeting held April 8, 2019

Regular meeting held with the following present: Mayor Mark Bowen; Aldermen Jerry Stone, Sam Cortez and Jamie Dahler; City Secretary Josie Campa; Public Works’ Director James McGrath; Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez, Jr.; Library Director Cassandra Cortez; Police Chief Richard Priest; Fire Marshal Matt Dear; Code Compliance Officer Skip Traeger; City Attorney Tom Cate. Alderman Ruble Farmer and Ruben Gonzalez were absent.

Visitors: Garrett Neumann, Steven Santana, Butch Shoemaker, Clay Schlinke, Andy Rodriguez, Betty Kroeger, Laura Reyna, Cory Thompson, Christopher Bowen, Rachel Lathe, Megan Tschetter, Mark Lovelace.

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
Mayor Bowen opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m. and led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

VISITORS’/CITIZENS’ COMMENTS
Mayor Bowen told Council that Alderman Farmer is recuperating well and Alderman Gonzalez is at Texas Tech for a watch party.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES AND APPROVAL OF PAYMENT OF BILLS
Alderman Sam Cortez made the motion that Council approve the minutes of the March 14th regular meeting and payment of the bills, as presented. Seconded by Alderwoman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FOR VARIANCE ON BUILDING SETBACK REQUIREMENTS FOR SADDLE RIDGE ESTATES
Garrett Neumann, engineer for Saddle Ridge asked Council for a variance on setback requirements. He asked the Council approve a setback for front yards of twenty-five (25) feet instead of thirty (30) feet and back yards be allowed fifteen (15) feet instead of thirty (30) feet. He said the side yard would be kept at five (5) feet. City Attorney Tom Cate read from the city’s code of ordinances and Council discussed this request. The City Attorney told Council that the city’s engineer had recommended a change to twenty-five (25) feet for the front yard and fifteen (15) feet for the back. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council approve the setbacks requested by Mr. Neumann for Saddle Ridge Estates. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUESTS FROM DEVELOPERS OF LYTEL FARM FOR VARIANCE ON BUILDING SETBACK REQUIREMENTS AND LOT REQUIREMENTS
Clay Schlinke and Andy Rodriguez representing Lytle Farms (Gidley property) asked Council to consider variances for the front and back setbacks for this subdivision. They explained why they were asking for a twenty (20) foot front yard and a ten (10) foot back yard. The City Attorney told Council that the city’s engineer has recommended twenty-five (25) feet for the front yard and fifteen (15) feet for the back yard. Mr. Schlinke told Council they are trying to market homes that will require to lot setbacks. The City Attorney told Council to go back to the city engineer...
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUESTS FROM DEVELOPERS OF LYTLE FARMS FOR VARIANCE ON BUILDING SETBACK REQUIREMENTS AND LOT REQUIREMENTS (CONT.)
and ask if they would recommend to Council to approve these setbacks for Lytle Farms. No action was taken on this item.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM LITTLE LEAGUE FOR ADDING ADDITIONAL STORAGE AREA
Megan Tschetter, Rachel Lathe and Laura Reyna, representatives for Lytle Little League requested Council’s permission for Little League to place a 12’ X 12’ storage building at the park for storing supplies for the league. Council members asked questions about the location for this storage building and it was agreed the best place would be near the service entrance on Bank Street near the tennis courts.

Chief Priest recommended it be placed where the police officers can shine a light on it when they are patrolling. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council a land lease agreement would be needed. After discussion, Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council allow the Lytle Little League to place a 12’ X 12’ or smaller storage building at the John Lott Park once the attorney draws up the lease agreement. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM ST. ANDREW’S CATHOLIC CHURCH FOR VARIANCE ON NOISE ORDINANCE FOR JUNE 1ST CHURCH FESTIVAL-SAM CORTEZ
Sam Cortez asked Council members for a noise variance for the St. Andrew’s Catholic Church Festival being held June 1st. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council grant this noise variance for this annual festival. Seconded by Alderwoman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON ADOPTING PROCLAMATION AUTHORIZING APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH AND AUTHORIZING THE MAYOR TO ACT AS THE CITY’S EXECUTIVE OFFICER AND AUTHORIZED REPRESENTATIVE IN ALL MATTERS PERTAINING TO APRIL AS FAIR HOUSING MONTH
Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council adopt the 2019 Fair Housing Month Proclamation. Seconded by Alderwoman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON EMPLOYMENT STATUS OF RESERVE POLICE CORPORAL DANNY ROBISON
Police Chief Richard Priest told Council that Michael Antuna had resigned, so the department has two (2) vacancies. He asked Council to hire Reserve Officer Danny Robison, who has been a reserve for the city for the past nineteen (19) years. He also asked that Officer Robison’s starting salary be set at $22.30 per hour and be on a six month probationary period. Alderman Stone made the motion that Council hire Danny Robison to fill one of the Police department vacancies as per the Chief’s recommendation. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.
CONSIDER AND ACT UPON REQUEST FROM LAND RACK, LLC TO PURCHASE 6.51 ACRES IN MEDINA COUNTY FROM CITY
City Secretary Josie Campa told Council that the city had received an offer from Land Rack, LLC to purchase 6.51 acres from the city. She told Council this is the property the new well is on and they were offering only $14,204.82, and recommended Council not accept this offer. Alderman Stone made the motion Council not accept this offer from Land Rack, LLC. Seconded by Alderman Cortez. Passed unanimously.

CONSIDER AND ACT UPON PROPOSAL (S) FOR EXIT OUT OF COAL MINE-SAM CORTEZ
Alderman Sam Cortez told Council the committee had met with Robert Flores two to three (2-3) weeks ago to discuss an emergency exit for Coal Mine. Alderman Cortez told Council that Mr. Flores was very receptive to the idea of the city putting a gate at the end of Juarez Street and allowing people to come through his property if an emergency exit is needed for Coal Mine. Alderman Cortez told Council the city may need to knock down some trees and then do a study to see what it takes to get this road to hit CR 683. He said an easement would probably be needed from the land owner on the right hand side of Juarez Street to get over to Mr. Flores’ land and road. The need for an all-weather road was also discussed. After discussion, Alderman Cortez made the motion that Council authorize the City Attorney to draw up the necessary paperwork for getting this emergency exit. Seconded by Alderman Stone. Passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION AND/OR ACTION ON SELLING MIXED DRINK BEVERAGES IN RESTAURANTS-RUBEN GONZALEZ
Mayor Bowen told Council that some restaurants are interested in Lytle, but they would need to be able to sell mixed drink beverages, and since Lytle is not allowed to sell these at this time, an election would be necessary to change this matter. The Mayor asked the City Attorney what the city has to do to get this going. City Attorney Tom Cate told Council if the city moves on this now, the city could hold an election in November for voters to decide whether mixed drink beverages can be sold in Lytle. After discussion, Alderman Cortez made the motion that the city move forward with allowing mixed drink beverages to be sold in restaurants. Seconded by Alderwoman Dahler. Passed unanimously.

Council took a short break at 7:36 p.m. and reconvened at 7:47 p.m.

ANIMAL CONTROL DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Animal Control Director Santiago Morantez presented his monthly report with a power point presentation.

LIBRARY DIRECTOR’S REPORT
Cassandra Cortez gave her Library Director’s report with a power point presentation.
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**CODE COMPLIANCE OFFICER’S REPORT**
Code Compliance Officer Scott Traeger told Council that brush has been the item he has been working on. He said he has been talking to people about where and when to place brush out for pick-up. He told Council that St. Andrew’s Catholic Church is clearing the property they bought on Main Street (the old dialysis place) and will be getting a burn permit.

**PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR’S REPORT**
James McGrath presented his monthly Public Works’ Director’s report with a power point presentation.

**POLICE CHIEF’S REPORT**
Police Chief Richard Priest presented a power point report for his monthly report.

**CITY SECRETARY’S REPORT**
Josie Campa gave the City Secretary monthly report with a power point presentation.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**
Mayor Mark Bowen thanked Alderman Sam Cortez for his work on getting score boards for the ball fields at the park.

The Mayor told Council he would be attending an Emergency Management seminar next week.

The Mayor also told Council that testing would be done on the sirens to get ready for storm season.

Mayor Bowen told Council they have done a good job on planning and working with the City Attorney for growth the city can control and manage.

Meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.